

From: Adam Ingleby
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/24/02 6:38pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Adam Ingleby

3247 Alta Hills Drive

Sandy, UT 84093

January 24, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft

US Department of Justice

950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW

Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

Three years ago, Microsoft was brought to trial for various antitrust violations. Six months ago, negotiations began to determine what a satisfactory settlement would entail. Last November, a settlement was finally reached. I am annoyed that the suit has dragged on for this long already. The case has not only had a negative effect on Microsoft and the Department of Justice in terms of wasted resources, it has also been detrimental to the economy, the IT industry, and the American public.

The settlement that was reached last year is perfectly reasonable. Microsoft has agreed to a broad spectrum of restrictions and affirmative obligations aimed not only at prohibiting future antitrust violation,

but also at allowing Microsoft's competitors the opportunity to compete fairly in the market. Microsoft has agreed, for example, not to retaliate when any software is introduced into the market that directly competes with Microsoft technology. Moreover, Microsoft plans to document and disclose interfaces integral to the Windows operating system for use by its competitors in order to function within the Microsoft framework. The settlement is not only just, it is fair. Some of the terms Microsoft agreed to extend to products and procedures that the Court of Appeals did not find to be in violation of antitrust laws. I do not believe it is necessary to continue to try Microsoft in this matter.

I do not believe it is in the best interest of the American people to pursue litigation against Microsoft. Extended suit against Microsoft can only result in more economic hardship and trouble for consumers. I urge you to finalize the settlement as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Adam Ingleby